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SIPDIS

AF/S FOR BRIAN WALCH
NSC FOR SENIOR AFRICA DIRECTOR MICHELLE GAVIN

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SUBJECT: DEMARCHE TO GOZ ON CLIMATE CHANGE

REF: SECSTATE 030709

11. Ambassador presented Demarche (Ref) and talking points to Zimbabwe Minister of Environment Frances Nhema on January 29.

12. Nhema responded that in his opinion the Copenhagen Accord was not a formal agreement to which the Government of Zimbabwe could associate; further he did not know what the implications of association would be. He noted that the GOZ had ratified the Kyoto Protocol and that the Copenhagen Accord appeared to contain provisions of the Protocol.

13. On January 27, polecon chief talked with Godfrey Magwenzi, Director of Multilateral Affairs in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Magwenzi said the GOZ believed climate change was real and had high hopes that Copenhagen would be a continuation of Kyoto with binding commitments by developed countries, including the U.S., and funding commitments to developing countries to mitigate the effects of climate change and to help in adopting new technologies. Instead, he felt the outcome was political and a step back from Kyoto.

RAY